UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/657,877 | 09/09/2003 | Joe F. Goicoechea | 200207903-1 | 2625 |

22879 7590 02/24/2009

HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY
P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

| EXAMINER | |
|---|---|
| DICKERSON, CHAD S | |

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|---|---|
| 2625 | |

| NOTIFICATION DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
|---|---|
| 02/24/2009 | ELECTRONIC |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

JERRY.SHORMA@HP.COM
mkraft@hp.com
ipa.mail@hp.com

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 10/657,877 | GOICOECHEA, JOE F. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | CHAD DICKERSON | 2625 | |

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *21 November 2008*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,5,7-16,20,22-36,40 and 43-45* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,5,7-16,20,22-36,40 and 43-45* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *09 September 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

1. Applicant's arguments filed 11/21/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In viewing the Applicant's arguments, it is simply stated that the combination of the Bhatti and Garcia references fails to disclose a measurement of a time elapsed following the detection of a malfunction[1]. Regarding the claim feature, the Examiner concludes through the arguments that the Applicant asserts that the references of Bhatti and Garcia do not disclose "*identifying a time elapsed following detection of a printer error*". The Examiner respectfully disagrees with the Applicant's assertion.

When looking at the claim language, the Examiner broadly interprets the claim feature of "*identifying a time elapsed following detection of a printer malfunction*" to simply mean detecting or determining a time that has passed after a printer malfunction has occurred. In other words, the system can detect a time passed any time after an error on the printer has occurred. In the system of Garcia, an error in the system can occur during the process of trying to print a job on a job receiver device. When a job receiver is in error, the print job is in opened/accepted like state, meaning that the job can still be in the process of being re-accepted or is opened. This current state is representative of steps 44 or 48 in figures 3A[2]. During either process, the T1 duration is still being measured because the job is still in an opened/accepted state. Since the specification of Garcia states that the job is in an opened/accepted state when there is

[1] See Applicant's remarks at page 12.

an error in accepting the job, it is clear that if a job is in such a state that the T1 timer is still being measured against the actual time the job has been stored on the printing server in the system[3]. With the previous statement being mentioned, it is clear that the system identifies a time that has elapsed and this time identified is after the error has occurred in the system. Once the actual time is measured of how long the job appears to be stored at the printing server, the system will determine if the identified elapsed time of the stored job has exceeded the T1 duration, which is considered as expiration data. At this point, the system may continue to give the user time to correct the error and finally receive the print job for printing from the printing server or delete the expired data. However, if the user does accept the job and corrects the error at the moment when the T1 expiration data threshold is exceeded by the current time the job has been stored on the printer server, the print job will then be deleted. With the above mentioned functions of Garcia, it is clear that the claim limitations in question are performed.

Therefore, in view of the above arguments, the rejection in view of the previously applied references is maintained.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

---

[2] See Garcia '464 at paragraphs [0074]-[0077].
[3] Id. at paragraphs [0065]-[0068].

3. Claims 1, 5, 7-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claims 1, 5, 9 and 11 appear to be seeking patent protection on a seemingly patentable product (i.e. computer readable medium). However, a mere listing of instructions on a medium that is not being executed on any device can be interpreted as having the scope of non-functional descriptive material being stored on a medium that is not functionally related to any other physical apparatus. It is suggested that the claims be amended to describe "A computer readable medium having (i.e. or encoding) instructions to be executed on a computer for ...". With such an amendment, the claim language will realize the program instructions on a medium being translated by and executed on a computer. In other words, the claim language would convey clearly a physical apparatus performing some feature because of the reading and execution of the instructions on the computer readable medium.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 11-16, 20, 22, 23 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bhatti '404 (US Pub No 2003/0065404) in view of Garcia '464 (US Pub No 2003/0112464).

Re claim 1: Bhatti '404 discloses a computer readable medium having instructions for determining if a print job designated time sensitive has expired following a detected triggering event **(i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate a print job to have an expiration date. If the user designates the print job's expiration date as never, then the print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive, but if a default expiration date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print job is considered to be time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface screen, there are known job storage options available, along with the job retention option that is considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the print job is not designated as time sensitive. With the software used to provide this option, the determination is made whether or not the job retention option is selected and the date tracker (34) used in the system can be implemented on all the business machines involved in the process in order to determine if a job retention expiration date has expired. The moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** and

purging the print job from a memory upon determining the print job has expired **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** and

wherein determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to specifically teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least

temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. Both the Bhatti reference and the Garcia reference involve printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the system of Garcia, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. With the combination of the features of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464, above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing. Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077])**.

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 5: Bhatti '404 discloses a computer readable medium having instructions for:

detecting a triggering event **(i.e. the moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);**

determining if a print job stored in a memory has been designated time sensitive following a detected triggering event **(i.e. in the system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is determined to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and selecting the default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the print job is sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command designating the print job**

**to be designated as time sensitive, or having an expiration date using the job retention option. The date tracker in the printer or in other devices in the system can also be used to determine if a stored print job is time sensitive, since the trackers are used to determine when a print job is expired. When the printer received the command for the job retention information, the receipt of the command can be considered as detecting a triggering event; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

if the print job has been designated time sensitive, obtaining expiration data for the print job, determining if the print job has expired according to the expiration data, and purging the print job from the memory if the print job has expired **(i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to obtain expiration data for a job to see if that job is designated to be time sensitive, or the job is utilizing the job retention option. When the determination is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

wherein determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified**

**elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to specifically teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. Both the Bhatti reference and the Garcia reference involve printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the system of Garcia, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. With the combination of the features of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464, above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing. Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92**

**in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 7: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 5, wherein the memory is a printer memory and wherein:

the instructions for obtaining expiration data include instructions for obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the printer memory

**(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the printer memory **(i.e. once the system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond the expiration point set for the print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the storage device storing the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach obtaining expiration data following the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses obtaining expiration data following the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time**

**in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this to the obtained time T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of obtaining expiration data following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of obtaining expiration data following the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 8: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 5, wherein the memory is a queue and wherein:

the instructions for obtaining expiration data include instructions for obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the queue **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the MFP storage device. Since the MFPs (14) can be used as business machines that store print job data, the storage device on the MFP can be considered as the queue, since a queue is**

**basically a FIFO storage device. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the queue **(i.e. once the system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond the expiration point set for the print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the storage device of the MFP storing the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach obtaining expiration data following the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses obtaining expiration data following the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this to the obtained time T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of obtaining expiration data following the**

**detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of obtaining expiration data following the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 11: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs having instructions for:

a print job stored in a memory **(i.e. in Bhatti '404, the print job is stored in a storage device present on several devices; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

determining if the print job has expired **(i.e. using the date tracker, the system determines if the print job is expire be utilizing the job retention expiration date set. This is performed in figure 2; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** and

if expired, purging the print job from the memory **(i.e. the system automatically deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or exceeded by the current time read by the date tracker; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),**

wherein determining if the print job has expired includes obtaining expiration data included with the print job, identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job. The system allows for the expiration date to be obtained when comparing this information to the current time in the system is performed by the date tracker (34); see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027]),** and determining if the elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach identifying a malfunction that prevents a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer and upon identifying the malfunction, identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses identifying a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. Both the Bhatti reference and the Garcia reference involve printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the system of Garcia, the error that occurs prevents the**

**print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])** and upon identifying the malfunction **(i.e. in the system, an error occurs in the system where the print job is not successfully delivered to the receiving part of the system, which includes both a receiving computer and a printing device. When an error occurs of this type, the printer is prevented from receiving or printing the image data for printing. This is an example of identifying the malfunction in the system; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**,

identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing. Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077])**.

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the instructions of identifying a malfunction that prevents a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer and upon identifying the malfunction and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to identify errors in sending the print job information from the server to the receiving device (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

Re claim 12: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 having further instructions for determining if the print job has been designated as a time sensitive **(i.e. in the system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is determined to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and selecting the default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the print job is sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command designating the print job to be designated as time sensitive, or having an expiration date using the job retention option. The date tracker in the printer or in other devices in the system can also be used to determine if a stored print job is time sensitive, since the trackers are used to determine when a print job is expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**, and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job only if it has been designated as a time sensitive print job **(i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to obtain**

**expiration data for a job to see if that job is designated to be time sensitive, or the job is utilizing the job retention option. When the determination is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 13: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 wherein the memory is a queue and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the queue **(i.e. since the storage device can be placed on the MFP (14), the MFP with the storage device is considered as the queue. Once the data tracker tracks that a print job is at or beyond the expiration date that was set during the job retention option, the job is deleted from the storage device of the MFP. The instructions are given from the computer program product used in the device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 14: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 wherein the memory is a printer memory and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the printer memory **(i.e. when the date tracker tracks that a print job stored on the printer memory device is expired, the print job is deleted from the printer**

**memory. The instructions are given from the computer program product used in the device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 15: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 having further instructions for notifying a user if the print job has been purged **(i.e. the user can be notified of the expiration and deletion of the print job by the user interface (22) or on the user's computer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 16: Bhatti '404 discloses a method for purging a print job, comprising,

detecting a triggering event **(i.e. the moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);**

determining if a print job designated as time sensitive has expired following a triggering event **(i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate a print job to have an expiration date. If the user designates the print job's expiration date as never, then the print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive, but if a default expiration date is chosen, which is**

**30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print job is considered to be time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface screen, there are known job storage options available, along with the job retention option that is considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the print job is not designated as time sensitive. With the software used to provide this option, the determination is made whether or not the job retention option is selected and the date tracker (34) used in the system can be implemented on all the business machines involved in the process in order to determine if a job retention expiration date has expired. The moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** and

purging the print job from a memory upon determining the print job has expired **(i.e. in the system, when the determination is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**, and

wherein the determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print**

**job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. With the combination of the features of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464, above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),**

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network**

**printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077])**.

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction in order to have an error in sending information from a server to a receiving device in the system (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

Re claim 20: Bhatti '404 discloses a method for purging a print job, comprising:

detecting a triggering event **(i.e. the moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

determining if a print job stored in a memory has been designated time sensitive **(i.e. in the system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is determined to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and selecting the default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the print job is sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command designating the print job to be designated as time sensitive, or having an expiration date using the job retention option. The date tracker in the printer or in other devices in the system can also be used to determine if a stored print job is time sensitive, since the trackers are used to determine when a print job is expired. When the printer received the command for the job retention information, the receipt of the command can be considered as detecting a triggering event; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

if the print job has been designated time sensitive and a detected triggering event has occurred, obtaining expiration data included with the print job, determining if the print job has expired according to the expiration data, and, if the print job has expired,

purging the print job from the memory **(i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to obtain expiration data for a job to see if that job is designated to be time sensitive, or the job is utilizing the job retention option. When the determination is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once the print job is determined to be expired. Also, when the storage device of the printer detects a print job for receipt and detects the job retention data by the data tracker, this is considered to be a triggering event, since the printer and the printer components detect an event; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

wherein the determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or

printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. With the combination of the features of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464, above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),**

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the**

**features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077])**.

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction in order to have an error in sending information from a server to a receiving device in the system (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

Re claim 22: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 20, wherein the memory is a printer memory and wherein:

obtaining expiration data comprises obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the printer memory **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

purging comprises purging the print job from the printer memory **(i.e. once the system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond the expiration point set for the print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the storage device storing the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach obtaining expiration data following the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses obtaining expiration data following the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this to the obtained time T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of obtaining expiration data following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of obtaining expiration data following the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 23: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 20, wherein the memory is a queue and wherein:

obtaining expiration data comprises obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the queue **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the MFP storage device. Since the MFPs (14) can be used as business machines that store print job data, the storage device on the MFP can be considered as the queue, since a queue is basically a FIFO storage device. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

purging comprise purging the print job from the queue **(i.e. once the system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond the expiration point set for the**

**print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the storage device of the MFP storing the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach obtaining expiration data following the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses obtaining expiration data following the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this to the obtained time T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of obtaining expiration data following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of obtaining expiration data following the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a

job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 36: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

a queue for temporarily holding a print job **(i.e. with a queue being used to store information to be processed later, any storage device used in the system can be used as a queue. The storage device on the MFP is considered to be a queue and this can hold print jobs temporarily since the print jobs have an expiration date designated for them; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

a queue manager capable of detecting a triggering event, determining, upon detection of a triggering event, if the print job held in the queue is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive, determining if the print job has expired, and purging the print job from the queue if the time sensitive print job has expired **(i.e. the date tracker can be considered as the queue manger since it performs the feature of determining if the print job held in the queue is a job retention job, considered as a time sensitive job, and also determines based on the current time if the print job is expired. The date tracker ensures that if a print job is expired, the print job is deleted from the storage device that stores the print job. The moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or MFP. This is a detectable event and is considered as a**

**triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device. Both examples can be set on the MFP, considered as the server device and after the setting of the expiration date on the MFP, the date tracker can determine if the print job held is expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0029]); and**

wherein the queue manager is operable to determine if the print job has expired by identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least

temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device With the combination of the features of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464, above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077])**.

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of wherein the detected

triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction in order to have an error in sending information from a server to a receiving device in the system (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

6. Claims 9, 10, 24-35, 40 and 43-45 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Schroath '995 (US Pub No 2003/0105995), and further in view of Garcia '464.

Re claim 9: Bhatti '404 discloses a computer readable medium having instructions for:

presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data **(i.e. the MFP (14) is presented with the user interface that gives the user the option to designate a job with the job retention option. This option is used to designate when a print job should be deleted from the storage device the job is held, which is considered as designating a print job to be time sensitive. The job retention option sets or specifies an expiration date for the print job, which is considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

if so selected through the interface, designating the print job as time sensitive and including expiration data with the print job **(i.e. if the option of job retention is selected, the user also designates the actual expiration date for the print job. Once the expiration date is set, this is sent with the print job to the storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),**

the expiration date indicating a duration for holding the print job in a memory **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),** the time sensitive designation indicating that the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed exceeds the duration included in the expiration data **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is made by the date tracker that a print job has expired due to the expiration date, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. The feature of above is performed by first designating the job retention option in order to set the print job as time sensitive in figure 3 (see element 30). This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and translating the instructions into a print job.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document **(i.e. like the reference of Bhatti, the Schroath invention involves printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the invention of Schroath, the computer or server in the system have an application program used to create**

**documents and send instructions to the printing device through a server or directly to a printer to print an electronic document. The printer is used in the system to receive print jobs from either source and to print the jobs. The jobs are electronic documents sent from the server or computer to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**; and

translating the instructions into a print job **(i.e. the instructions sent over to the printer are translated by the formatter, so that the printer engine can understand the print job before printing the received job. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Schroath '995 performs the above features of the claims; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**.

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the instructions of receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and translating the instructions into a print job in order to have a printer receive print jobs from any device (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0021]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 fails to teach following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses following a detection of a malfunction **(i.e. once the print job is detected to be in an error state (see step 78 in figure 3(b)), the T1 time in the system is still**

**being measured to see if print job expiration is about to occur. Once in error state, the system's receiver is placed back at step 46 is figure 3(a), where the receiver has to accept the print job again or, in some manner, fix the error. During this process, the T1 is still being measured and the system can reach the threshold of the T1 counter after the error has been found in the system. Therefore, with the above situation, the feature of purging a print job following a detection of a malfunction is performed. The T1 period is given to notify the system that this is the amount of time, or threshold, that has to be exceeded before the print job is deleted from the system; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0076])** that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 performs the above feature of the claims; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once**

**the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077])**.

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, which is also modified by the features and system of Schroath '995, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 10: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 9, wherein the memory is a printer memory (i.e. the storage device (20) can be physically located on the printer (18); see paragraph [0021]) and the duration is a first duration and wherein the instructions for presenting include instructions for presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for

designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data **(i.e. with the use of the user interface shown in figure 2, the user is able to designate a print job as time sensitive through the job retention option and to specify an expiration date, considered as expiration data, for the print job stored in a storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** relating to the first duration for holding the print job in the printer memory **(i.e. since the printer and the MFPs have different storage devices, these devices can be considered to have their own expiration dates, or duration of holding the print jobs. With the printer memory, the print job can be held in a default manner of 30 days in the job retention option and in the MFP, the job can be held in a manner of 60 days until the print jobs expire and are deleted from both respective memories; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** and a second duration for holding the print job in a queue **(i.e. since both the MFP (14) and the printer can both have storage devices and user interfaces, expiration data can be set in both the printer and the MFP. The setting of the holding of a print job in the MFP can be before the actual print job is sent from an MFP to a printer in the system. Also, a second duration, considered as the new expiration, can be set in the system to renew job storage options with the print job; see paragraphs [0021]-[0029])**.

Re claim 24: Bhatti '404 discloses a method for designating a print job as time sensitive, comprising:

presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data **(i.e. the MFP (14) is presented with the user interface that gives the user the option to designate a job with the job retention option. This option is used to designate when a print job should be deleted from the storage device the job is held, which is considered as designating a print job to be time sensitive. The job retention option sets or specifies an expiration date for the print job, which is considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

if so selected through the interface, designating the print job as time sensitive and including expiration data with the print job **(i.e. if the option of job retention is selected, the user also designates the actual expiration date for the print job. Once the expiration date is set, this is sent with the print job to the storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),**

the expiration date indicating a duration for holding the print job in a memory **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),** the time sensitive designation indicating that the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed exceeds the duration included in the expiration data **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is**

**made by the date tracker that a print job has expired due to the expiration date, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. The feature of above is performed by first designating the job retention option in order to set the print job as time sensitive in figure 3 (see element 30). This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and translating the instructions into a print job.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document **(i.e. like the reference of Bhatti, the Schroath invention involves printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the invention of Schroath, the computer or server in the system have an application program used to create documents and send instructions to the printing device through a server or directly to a printer to print an electronic document. The printer is used in the system to receive print jobs from either source and to print the jobs. The jobs are electronic documents sent from the server or computer to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**; and

translating the instructions into a print job **(i.e. the instructions sent over to the printer are translated by the formatter, so that the printer engine can understand the print job before printing the received job. The combination of Bhatti '404 with**

**the features of Schroath '995 performs the above features of the claim; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**.

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have method steps of receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and translating the instructions into a print job in order to have a printer receive print jobs from any device (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0021]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 fails to teach following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses following a detection of a malfunction **(i.e. once the print job is detected to be in an error state (see step 78 in figure 3(b)), the T1 time in the system is still being measured to see if print job expiration is about to occur. Once in error state, the system's receiver is placed back at step 46 is figure 3(a), where the receiver has to accept the print job again or, in some manner, fix the error. During this process, the T1 is still being measured and the system can reach the threshold of the T1 counter after the error has been found in the system. Therefore, with the above situation, the feature of purging a print job following a detection of a malfunction is performed. The T1 period is given to notify the system that this is the amount of time, or threshold, that has to be exceeded**

**before the print job is deleted from the system; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0076])** that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 performs the above features of the claim; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),**

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, which is also modified by the features and system of Schroath '995, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 25: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 24, wherein the memory is a printer memory (i.e. in the system, the storage device can be located in the printer device (18); see paragraph [0021]) and the duration is a first duration and wherein presenting comprises presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data **(i.e. with the use of the user interface shown in figure 2, the user is able to designate a print job as time sensitive through the job retention option and to specify an expiration date, considered as expiration data, for the print job stored in a storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** relating to the first duration for holding the print job in the printer memory **(i.e. since the printer and the MFPs have different storage devices, these devices can be considered to have their own expiration dates, or**

**duration of holding the print jobs. With the printer memory, the print job can be held in a default manner of 30 days in the job retention option and in the MFP, the job can be held in a manner of 60 days until the print jobs expire and are deleted from both respective memories; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** and a second duration for holding the print job in a queue **(i.e. since both the MFP (14) and the printer can both have storage devices and user interfaces, expiration data can be set in both the printer and the MFP. The setting of the holding of a print job in the MFP can be before the actual print job is sent from an MFP to a printer in the system. Also, a second duration, considered as the new expiration, can be set in the system to renew job storage options with the print job; see paragraphs [0021]-[0029])**.

Re claim 26: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

a print job stored in a memory **(i.e. in Bhatti '404, the print job is stored in a storage device present on several devices; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

determining if the stored print job has expired **(i.e. using the date tracker, the system determines if the print job is expire be utilizing the job retention expiration date set. This is performed in figure 2; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

if expired, purging the print job from the memory **(i.e. the system automatically deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or exceeded by the current time read by the date tracker; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);**

wherein determining if the print job has expired includes obtaining expiration data included with the print job, identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job. The system allows for the expiration date to be obtained when comparing this information to the current time in the system is performed by the date tracker (34); see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027]),** and determining if the elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach identifying a printer malfunction that prevents a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer and upon identifying the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses a means for identifying a printer malfunction **(i.e. like the reference of**

**Bhatti, the Schroath invention involves printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the system of Schroath '995, a malfunction is detected or identified in the printer and the print job is being prevented from being printed because of the error detected. However, the feature of identifying a malfunction combined with the feature of Bhatti '404 that has the print job stored in printer memory performs the above claim feature; see figs. 1-3 and 5; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**; and

upon identifying the malfunction **(i.e. the printer has an error identification module that identifies printer errors and is logged in an error log; see figs. 1-3 and 5; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**.

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have a means for identifying a printer malfunction in order to identify printer errors in the system (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0026]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 fails to specifically teach a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents a print job stored from being delivered to or printed by a printer.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses identifying a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the**

**receiving device; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])** and upon identifying the malfunction **(i.e. in the system, an error occurs in the system where the print job is not successfully delivered to the receiving part of the system, which includes both a receiving computer and a printing device. When an error occurs of this type, the printer is prevented from receiving or printing the image data for printing. This is an example of identifying the malfunction in the system. The features of Bhatti '404 with the combination of the features of Bhatti '404 and Schroath '995, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),**

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the**

**features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method steps of identifying a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction in order to identify errors in sending the print job information from the server to the receiving device (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

Re claim 27: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 26 further comprises:

determining if the print job has been designated as time sensitive **(i.e. in the system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is determined to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and selecting the default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the print job is sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command designating the print job to be designated as time sensitive, or having an expiration date using the job retention option. The date tracker in the printer or in other devices in the system can also be used to determine if a stored print job is time sensitive, since the trackers are used to determine when a print job is expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

purging the print job only if it has been designated as a time sensitive print job **(i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to obtain expiration data for a job to see if that job is designated to be time sensitive, or the job is utilizing the job retention option. When the determination is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 28: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 26 wherein the memory is a queue, and wherein purging the print job includes purging the print job from the queue **(i.e. since the storage device can be placed on the MFP (14), the MFP with the storage device is considered as the queue. Once the data tracker tracks that a print job is at or beyond the expiration date that was set during the job retention option, the job is deleted from the storage device of the MFP. The instructions are given from the computer program product used in the device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 29: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 26, wherein the memory is a printer memory, and wherein purging the expired print job includes purging the expired print job from the printer memory **(i.e. when the date tracker tracks that a print job stored on the printer memory device is expired, the print job is deleted from the printer memory. The instructions are given from the computer program product used in the device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 30: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 26, further comprising notifying a user that the print job has been purged **(i.e. the user can be notified of the expiration and deletion of the print job by the user interface (22) or on the user's computer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 31: Bhatti '404 discloses a method for purging a print job, comprising:

designating the print job as a time sensitive print job **(i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate a print job to have an expiration date. If the user designates the print job's expiration date as never, then the print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive, but if a default expiration date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print job is considered to be time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface screen, there are known job storage options available, along with the job retention option that is**

**considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the print job is not designated as time sensitive; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

including expiration data in the print job, the expiration data indicating a duration **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

queuing the time sensitive print job **(i.e. in the system, the print job designated to be stored using the job retention option is considered to be a time sensitive print job. This print job is stored, or queued, in the respective MFP device or some other location that stores the print jobs; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

identifying a first time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job. The system allows for the expiration date to be obtained when comparing this information to the current time in the system is performed by the date tracker (34); see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**; and

purging the time sensitive print job from the queue if the identified first elapsed time exceeds the duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. if the print job has a set expiration date and is not deleted before the expiration date, the print job is then deleted once the expiration date is exceeded by the current time in the system; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach detecting a first malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job from being printed and purging the time sensitive print job if the malfunction is not remedied within a set time.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses purging the time sensitive print job from the queue if the malfunction is not remedied within a set time **(i.e. like the reference of Bhatti, the Schroath invention involves printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the invention of Schroath, if the same error occurs a certain amount of times within a set time period (i.e. like X minutes), the system deletes the print job once the printer discovers that the printer error or malfunction has not been fixed. This performs the feature of deleting the print job if the malfunction is not remedied within a set time. This feature combined with the feature of having a time sensitive print job of Bhatti '404 performs the above claim feature; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**.

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of purging the time sensitive print job if the malfunction is not remedied within a set time in order to

have a process performed for handling printer errors (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0027]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 fails to specifically teach detecting a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the time sensitive print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses detecting a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the time sensitive print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The print job is considered to be time sensitive since timers T1 and T2 in the system are placed on the print job after certain steps occur in the process of printing the print job. After these timers T1 and T2 are elapsed, the print job is purged because of the expiration of the time periods. The features of Bhatti '404 combined with the features of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 performs the claim feature above; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0076]);**

and identifying a first time elapsed following the detection of the first malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system**

**operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077])**.

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of detecting a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the time sensitive print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a first time elapsed following the detection of the first malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Schroath '995, in order for the system to indicate an error when an error occurs in sending information from the server to the receiving device (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

Re claim 32: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 31, wherein the duration is a first duration and the expiration data further indicates a second duration (i.e. when the user is able to renew the job storage options and set a new expiration date (30), this is considered as

having the expiration date reflect a second duration for the print job to be held; see paragraph [0027]), the method further comprising:

sending the time sensitive print job from the queue to a printer memory **(i.e. in Bhatti '404, the print jobs that are designated by the job retention option can be sent to the printer memory, or any other memory used in the system from the MFP, which also contains a storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

purging the printer memory of the time sensitive print job from the printer memory if the second elapsed time exceeds the second duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. the print job in the printer memory that is designated by the job retention option as having an expiration date, is deleted once the expiration date is reached or exceeded. The expiration date can be considered the set time the print job is deleted within. Also, shown in paragraph [0027] is another aspect of the invention that allows a user to setup a new expiration date, considered as second expiration data or second duration. The new time that is now compared to the new expiration data is considered as the second time that is being elapsed as the print job is being stored in the storage that can be physically located in the printer (18). With the new expiration date being compared to the next round of elapsed time, if the user's job approaches or exceeds this new expiration date, the job is deleted from the memory; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach detecting a second malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job in the printer memory from being printed.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses detecting a second malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job in the printer memory from being printed **(i.e. like the reference of Bhatti, the Schroath invention involves printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the invention of Schroath, the print error identification module detects a printer error or malfunction that prevents the print job from being printed in the system. This detection is used in fixing the printer error. The system is able to detect if this error occurs more than once as shown in figure 3 (see elements 306 and 312). With the feature of detecting the malfunction that prevents a print job from being printed combined with the feature of having a time sensitive print job of Bhatti '404, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**.

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method steps of detecting a malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job in the printer memory from being printed in order to have a process performed for handling printer errors (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0027]).

However, Bhatti '404 and Schroath '995 fails to specifically teach identifying a second time elapsed following the detection of the first malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses identifying a second time elapsed following the detection of the first malfunction **(i.e. the system of Bhatti and Garcia involve the function of network printing (same field of endeavor). However, in the Garcia system, once the first error occurs, the printing system returns to step 46 in figure 3(a). Then the e-receiver accepts the job for printing. Once the e-receiver connects a new time is now counted (T2). At this point in figure 3(b), a second time is being measured, or is elapsing, in comparison to the second threshold. The system now identifies a first time in comparison to T1 and another time in comparison to T2; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0065]-[0077])**.

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of identifying a second time elapsed following the detection of the first malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Schroath '995, in order for the system to indicate an error when an error occurs in sending information from the server to the receiving device (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

Re claim 33: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 31, further comprising notifying a user if the print job has been purged **(i.e. the user can be notified of the expiration and**

**deletion of the print job by the user interface (22) or on the user's computer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 34: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 and Garcia '464 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 31, further comprising associating expiration data with the time sensitive print job **(i.e. when a user has designated a print job to be a job retention job, the user associates an expiration date, or data, with the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**, and using the expiration data to determine if the time sensitive print job has expired, and wherein purging comprises purging the time sensitive print job only if it has expired **(i.e. the system automatically deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or exceeded by the current time read by the date tracker. The date tracker uses the expiration date, or data, to determine if a print job has expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach after detecting the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses after detecting the malfunction **(i.e. like the reference of Bhatti, the Schroath invention involves printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the invention of Schroath, the print error identification module detects a printer error or malfunction that prevents the print job from being printed in the system. This detection is used in fixing the printer error. With the**

**feature of detecting the malfunction that prevents a print job from being printed combined with the feature of having a time sensitive print job of Bhatti '404, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[[0032])**.

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of after detecting the malfunction in order to have a process performed for handling printer errors (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0027]).

Re claim 35: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

of allowing a user to designate the print job as time sensitive and to specify and include expiration data with the print job **(i.e. the MFP (14) is presented with the user interface that gives the user the option to designate a job with the job retention option. This option is used to designate when a print job should be deleted from the storage device the job is held, which is considered as designating a print job to be time sensitive. The job retention option sets or specifies an expiration date for the print job, which is considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

wherein the expiration date indicates a duration for holding the print job in a memory **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer**

**memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),** the time sensitive designation indicating that the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed exceeds the duration included in the expiration data **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is made by the date tracker that a print job has expired due to the expiration date, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. The feature of above is performed by first designating the job retention option in order to set the print job as time sensitive in figure 3 (see element 30). This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach an application capable of instructing an electronic document to be printed and a driver capable of translating printing instructions from an application into a print job.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses an application capable of instructing an electronic document to be printed **(i.e. like the reference of Bhatti, the Schroath invention involves printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the invention of Schroath, the computer or server in the system have an application program used to create documents and send instructions to the printing device through a server or directly to a printer to print an electronic document. The printer is used in the system to receive print jobs from either source and to print the jobs. The jobs are**

**electronic documents sent from the server or computer to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**; and

a driver capable of translating printing instructions from an application into a print job **(i.e. the instructions sent over to the printer are translated by the formatter, so that the printer engine can understand the print job before printing the received job. Since the formatter performs the translation of printing instructions into a print job, the formatter is considered analogous to the driver. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Schroath '995 performs the above feature; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**.

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of an application capable of instructing an electronic document to be printed and a driver capable of translating printing instructions from an application into a print job in order to have a printer receive print jobs from any device (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0021]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 fails to teach following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer, identifying that a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses following a detection of a malfunction **(i.e. once the print job is detected to be in an error state (see step 78 in figure 3(b)), the T1 time in the system is still**

**being measured to see if print job expiration is about to occur. Once in error state, the system's receiver is placed back at step 46 is figure 3(a), where the receiver has to accept the print job again or, in some manner, fix the error. During this process, the T1 is still being measured and the system can reach the threshold of the T1 counter after the error has been found in the system. Therefore, with the above situation, the feature of purging a print job following a detection of a malfunction is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0076])** that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 and Schroath '995 performs the claim feature; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),**

identifying that a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is**

**identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying that a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, which is also modified by the features and system of Schroath '995, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 40: Bhatti '404 discloses an image forming device, comprising:

a print engine capable of printing information on print media **(i.e. in all printers, there are printer engines that are used to print information on print media. It is understood that since Bhatti '404 uses a printer in the system, it also has a print engine capable of printing information; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

a memory manager capable of storing a print job in a memory, routing the print job from the memory to the print engine, and purging the print job from the memory **(i.e. in the system, the printer is able to store a print job in the storage device in the**

**printer or MFP, the printer is also able to route a print job on the memory to the printer engine of the printer for printing, since an electronic document that is stored can be reviewed at a user interface on the printer and printed in hard copy form. Also, since the printer is able to have a date tracker on the device, the printer is able to delete print jobs from the memory once the expiration date of a print job is reached or exceeded by the system. Although a memory manger is not specifically disclosed, the features of the memory manager are performed by the invention; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0002]-[0007] and [0019]-[0028])**; and

a recovery feature capable of detecting a triggering event, identifying whether the print job held in the memory is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive and if a triggering event has been detected, determining if the print job has expired, and instructing the memory manager to purge the print job from the memory if the time sensitive print job has expired **(i.e. in the system, the determination of the print job being designated by the job retention option, is performed by the date tracker used on the MFP or the printer. This performs the feature of identifying if the print job held in the memory has an expiration date, or is time sensitive. If the print job is time sensitive, or designated by the job retention option as time sensitive, and has been detected to be stored in the respective storage device, which are all considered as triggering events, the date tracker can determine if the print job is expired or not. Once the print job has reached or exceeded the expiration date, the print job is deleted from the storage device of the printer or MFP. Although a**

**recovery feature is not specifically disclosed, the features of the recovery feature are performed; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]);** and

wherein the recovery feature is operable to determine if the print job has expired by identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being printed.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction **(i.e. like the reference of Bhatti, the Schroath invention involves printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the system of Schroath '995, the background describes the event in which a printer error prevents the print job from being printed and the user in the system has to go back to a user computer to resend a print job to be printed. This is an example of a printer malfunction being detected by the system printer; see paragraphs [0003], [0006] and [0032])**.

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction in order to detect if a printer has an error (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0027]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 fails to specifically teach a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 and Schroath '995 performs the claim feature; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),** and

identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once**

**the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the system of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, which is also modified by the features and system of Schroath '995, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 43: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

a memory for storing a print job **(i.e. the printer has a storage device that is used for storing print jobs sent to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

a print engine capable of printing information on print media **(i.e. in all printers, there are printer engines that are used to print information on print media. It is**

**understood that since Bhatti '404 uses a printer in the system, it also has a print engine capable of printing information; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

a memory manager capable of storing the print job in the memory, routing the print job from the memory to the print engine, and purging the print job from the memory **(i.e. in the system, the printer is able to store a print job in the storage device in the printer or MFP, the printer is also able to route a print job on the memory to the printer engine of the printer for printing, since an electronic document that is stored can be reviewed at a user interface on the printer and printed in hard copy form. Also, since the printer is able to have a date tracker on the device, the printer is able to delete print jobs from the memory once the expiration date of a print job is reached or exceeded by the system. Although a memory manger is not specifically disclosed, the features of the memory manager are performed by the invention; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0002]-[0007] and [0019]-[0028])**; and

a recovery feature capable of identifying whether the print job held in the memory is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive, instructing the memory manager to purge the print job from the memory if the time sensitive print job expires before the malfunction is remedied **(i.e. in the system, the determination of the print job being designated by the job retention option, is performed by the date tracker used on the MFP or the printer. This performs the feature of identifying if the print job held in the memory has an expiration date, or is time sensitive. If the print job is time sensitive, or designated by the job retention option, and has been detected to be stored in the respective storage device, considered as a triggering event, the date**

**tracker can determine if the print job is expired or not. Once the print job has reached or exceeded the expiration date, the print job is deleted from the storage device of the printer or MFP. Although a recovery feature is not specifically disclosed, the features of the recovery feature are all performed; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**,

wherein the recovery feature is operable to determine if the print job has expired by identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach identifying a printer malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being printed.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses identifying a printer malfunction **(i.e. like the reference of Bhatti, the Schroath invention involves printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the system of Schroath '995, the background describes the event in which a printer error prevents the print job from being printed and the user in the**

**system has to go back to a user computer to resend a print job to be printed. This is an example of a printer malfunction being identified; see paragraphs [0003], [0006] and [0032])**.

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of identifying a printer malfunction in order to detect if a printer has an error (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0027]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 fails to specifically teach a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 and Schroath '995 performs the claim feature; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**, and

identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the**

**system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the system of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, which is also modified by the features and system of Schroath '995, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 44: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

a means for presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data **(i.e. the MFP (14) is presented with the user interface that gives the user the option to designate a job with the job retention option. This option is used to designate**

**when a print job should be deleted from the storage device the job is held, which is considered as designating a print job to be time sensitive. The job retention option sets or specifies an expiration date for the print job, which is considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

a means for designating the print job as time sensitive and including expiration data with the print job if so selected through the interface **(i.e. if the option of job retention is selected, the user also designates the actual expiration date for the print job. Once the expiration date is set, this is sent with the print job to the storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**

wherein the expiration date indicates a duration for holding the print job in a memory **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),** the time sensitive designation indicating that the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed exceeds the duration included in the expiration data **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is made by the date tracker that a print job has expired due to the expiration date, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. The feature of above is performed by first designating the job retention option in order to set the print job as time sensitive in figure 3**

**(see element 30). This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach a means for receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and a means for translating the instructions into a print job.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses a means for receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document **(i.e. like the reference of Bhatti, the Schroath invention involves printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the invention of Schroath, the computer or server in the system have an application program used to create documents and send instructions to the printing device through a server or directly to a printer to print an electronic document. The printer is used in the system to receive print jobs from either source and to print the jobs. The jobs are electronic documents sent from the server or computer to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])** and

a means for translating the instructions into a print job **(i.e. the instructions sent over to the printer are translated by the formatter, so that the printer engine can understand the print job before printing the received job. Since the formatter performs the translation of printing instructions into a print job, the formatter is considered analogous to the driver. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Schroath '995 performs the above claim feature; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**.

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to a means for receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and a means for translating the instructions into a print job in order to have a printer receive print jobs from any device (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0021]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 fails to teach following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying that a time elapsed following detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses following a detection of a malfunction **(i.e. once the print job is detected to be in an error state (see step 78 in figure 3(b)), the T1 time in the system is still being measured to see if print job expiration is about to occur. Once in error state, the system's receiver is placed back at step 46 is figure 3(a), where the receiver has to accept the print job again or, in some manner, fix the error. During this process, the T1 is still being measured and the system can reach the threshold of the T1 counter after the error has been found in the system. Therefore, with the above situation, the feature of purging a print job following a detection of a malfunction is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0076])** that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print**

**job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 and Schroath '995 performs the claim feature; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),**

identifying that a time elapsed following detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying that a time elapsed following detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, which is also

modified by the features and system of Schroath '995, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 45: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

a means for storing the print job in memory **(i.e. the printer has a storage device that is used for storing print jobs sent to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

a means for identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job. The system allows for the expiration date to be obtained when comparing this information to the current time in the system is performed by the date tracker (34); see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**;

a means for comparing the identified elapsed time with a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job to determine if the print job has expired **(i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate a print job to have an expiration date. If the user designates the print job's expiration date as never, then the print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive, but if a default expiration date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print job is considered to be time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface**

**screen, there are known job storage options available, along with the job retention option that is considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the print job is not designated as time sensitive. With the software used to provide this option, the determination is made whether or not the job retention option is selected and the date tracker (34) used in the system can be implemented on all the business machines involved in the process in order to determine if a job retention expiration date has expired. Also, the event tracker constantly compares the current time in the system to the expiration date set for a stored job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and**

a means for determining, if the stored print job has expired **(i.e. using the date tracker, the system determines if the print job is expire be utilizing the job retention expiration date set. This is performed in figure 2; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

a means for purging the print job, if expired, from memory **(i.e. the system automatically deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or exceeded by the current time read by the date tracker; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach a means for identifying a printer malfunction that prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and upon identifying the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses a means for identifying a printer malfunction **(i.e. like the reference of**

**Bhatti, the Schroath invention involves printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the system of Schroath '995, a malfunction is detected or identified in the printer and the print job is being prevented from being printed because of the error detected. However, the feature of identifying a malfunction combined with the feature of Bhatti '404 that has the print job stored in printer memory performs the above claim feature; see figs. 1-3 and 5; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**; and

upon identifying the malfunction **(i.e. the printer has an error identification module that identifies printer errors and is logged in an error log; see figs. 1-3 and 5; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**.

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have a means for identifying a printer malfunction in order to identify printer errors in the system (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0026]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 fails to specifically teach a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and a means for identifying a time elapsed since the malfunction was identified.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and**

**it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 and Schroath '995 performs the claim feature; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**, and

a means for identifying a time elapsed since the malfunction was identified **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the system of following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and a means for identifying a time elapsed since the malfunction was identified, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, which is also

modified by the features and system of Schroath '995, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

***Conclusion***

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

8. Matias (USP 5528374) discloses a networked reproduction apparatus with security feature (see Background Art for disclosure of claim features).

9. Nezu (USP 5970228) discloses a method of maintaining security in a common output means and system for maintaining security.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHAD DICKERSON whose telephone number is (571)270-1351. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Thur. 9:00-6:30 Fri. 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler Haskins can be reached on (571)-272-7406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/C. D./
/Chad Dickerson/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/Twyler L. Haskins/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625